



A Newsletter for Recycling Coordinators

## AF&PA honors Oconee County

Oconee County was one of two communities recognized nationwide for its outstanding paper recovery and recycling program.

The county, along with the City of Clearwater (FL) Solid Waste and Recycling Department, were the 2005 American Forest and Paper Association Community Recycling Award recipients.

Through a variety of outreach and technical assistance efforts, Oconee County increased its residential recycling rate 26 percent since Fiscal Year 2003 resulting in savings of nearly \$350,000 the past three years when factoring in avoided disposal costs and revenue.

"We are honored to be recognized by the organization that represents paper markets and to be selected from so many worthy programs," said Melissa Higgs, Oconee County's solid waste director. "We all know recycling cannot be successful without relationships with markets. This award is a reflection of the power of the Solid Waste Department's team effort to promote recycling and to deliver a clean product to those markets."

The county's outreach efforts included starting a school recycling program accompanied by teacher resource materials for classroom follow-up, establishing a teacher liaison for every school, producing a quarterly newsletter ("Green Teacher"), holding a recycling adventure for fourth graders and making contacts through civic

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## S.C. woman wins national recycling prize

Last year, Nancy Mawra of Pawleys Island signed a challenge card pledging to recycle more and buy recycled content products. Now she is the proud owner of a hybrid Ford Escape – the national grand prize from America Recycles Day, Inc. and part of its annual America Recycles (AR) campaign.

Mawra's card was randomly picked from about 200,000 entries collected nationwide last year. The challenge cards were collected at more than 900 AR events nationwide and via the America Recycles Web site, [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org). The deadline for challenge cards was November 15 – America Recycles Day – and the drawing was held in December.

Mawra was encouraged to complete the challenge card by her 8-year-old triplets,

Brianna, Jacquelyn and Alexandra, who brought the card home from school. They – with her husband David – joined her to accept the keys to the new gasoline/electric hybrid SUV during a ceremony at Beach Ford in Myrtle Beach. Meg Morris – chairman, America Recycles Day, Inc., Kate Krebs – executive director, National Recycling Coalition, and Thomas Niemann – manager, Environmental Outreach & Strategy with Ford Motor Company, presented the car to the family.

Mawra wasn't the only South Carolina winner in AR's challenge card drawing. Ally Abbott of Fort Mill won a Trek 4300 bicycle made from recycled aluminum. Abbott was one of five national bicycle winners of the contest sponsored by Novelis.

"By actively participating in America Recycles campaigns, South Carolina is doing an excellent job of making its residents aware of the value of recycling and buying recycled products," Morris said.

AR has awarded a variety of prizes as part of its annual recycling campaign. Energy-saving cars, bicycles made from recycled content materials and even environmentally friendly houses have been given – all to raise awareness about the importance of recycling and buying products made from recycled materials.

America Recycles events are coordinated in South Carolina by a statewide steering committee and managed by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling. AR activities and events are held throughout the state.



Nancy Mawra is pictured with her family at a ceremony to receive their new Ford Escape gasoline/electric hybrid SUV. The vehicle was the national grand prize in a drawing sponsored by America Recycles Day, Inc.

**S.C. MATERIALS EXCHANGE Web site debuts, see Page 2**

## New Web site offers waste reduction opportunities

The **SOUTH CAROLINA MATERIALS EXCHANGE (SCME)** is a free, on-line service that seeks to reduce waste by facilitating the exchange of reusable materials by businesses, non-profit organizations and government. In short, SCME is a "match-making service" that provides users access to information on materials available or wanted.

The benefits of using a materials exchange are many and may include: finding valuable materials for free or less than the cost of new materials; reducing waste disposal costs; selling surplus materials for profit; conserving natural resources; and demonstrating your environmental responsibility to others.

Materials currently **AVAILABLE** via the SCME include: fiberglass resin; foundry sand; wooden crates; scrap rubber drive belt material; coffee grounds; neoprene; cured/uncured EPDM (rubber); and aluminum lapel pins.

Materials currently **WANTED** via the SCME include: asphalt debris; concrete debris; light transparent textiles; computers; toner and inkjet printer cartridges; Gaylord boxes; used oil filters; injection molding scrap; styrofoam packaging peanuts; cured/uncured EPDM (rubber); and neoprene.

The user-friendly SCME, located at [www.scdhec.gov/scme](http://www.scdhec.gov/scme), has been designed and will be maintained here in South Carolina, allowing the Business Recycling Assistance Program (B-RAP) to better assist users in finding outlets for their materials or the materials they want.

B-RAP is a collaborative effort of the S.C. Department of Commerce and DHEC that helps businesses and other organizations implement waste reduction and recycling programs. For more information, visit [www.scdhec.gov/brap](http://www.scdhec.gov/brap) or call 1-800-768-7348.

## DHEC awards FY06 Solid Waste Grants

DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office) has awarded more than \$1.4 million Solid Waste Grants in Fiscal Year 2006 (FY06).

These grants are awarded to local governments and are funded from a \$2 fee on lead-acid batteries and white goods. Solid Waste Grants are made available to provide assistance in meeting the state's 35 percent recycling goal.

This year, the grants were offered to target the specific commodities: **\$535,261** was awarded for cardboard and/or office paper collection programs; and **\$399,486** was awarded for plastics collection. Funding was awarded for containers, balers, buildings, public education and other directly related expenses.

In addition, **\$243,176** was awarded for hazardous household materials programs. Funds were awarded to establish or expand permanent collection programs. Funding was made available for storage buildings, safety equipment,

supplies, public education and employee training.

Another **\$220,354** was awarded for residential electronics recycling. Funds were awarded to establish or expand permanent electronics collection programs. Funding was offered for storage buildings, equipment/supplies, public education and contract costs.

An additional **\$35,900** was awarded to help start collection programs for residential antifreeze, for parks and recreation area recycling and for residential cooking oil recycling. Funds were awarded for collection containers, equipment/supplies and public education.

### WASTE TIRE/AUTOMOTIVE DISMANTLER GRANTS

In FY06, **\$771,296** was awarded for the Waste Tire/Automobile Dismantler grants. Funds were awarded for equipment, contractor costs, public education and travel associated with the clean-up of stockpiled tires or for the management of "current generation" waste tires such as those accepted from the public, from tire retailers and from verified automobile dismantlers.

### USED OIL GRANTS

In FY06, **\$824,138** was awarded for Used Oil grants. Funds were awarded for equipment including 10 oil/gasoline mixture tanks (for a total of 56 tanks in 36 counties by the end of FY06) and eight farmer oil tanks (for a total of 48 tanks in 35 counties by the end of FY06). Contractor costs for used oil filter recycling, site preparation for new centers, public education and travel funds also were awarded.

## Grants available for schools, colleges

**Recycling Mini-grant applications** are now available to teachers and school districts. These mini-grants can be used to buy recycling bins, organize and maintain a composting program, buy supplies for "Action for a cleaner tomorrow" lessons or materials for a recycling club.

**Collegiate Recycling Grant applications** also are available to S.C. colleges and universities. These grants can be used to implement or expand recycling programs.

Visit the Office's Web site at [www.scdhec.gov/recycle](http://www.scdhec.gov/recycle) to download an application or contact Tina Lindler at [lindleic@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:lindleic@dhec.sc.gov) or 1-800-768-7348 for more information.

The deadline for RECYCLING MINI-GRANT applications is **August 26, 2005**. The deadline for COLLEGIATE RECYCLING GRANT applications is **August 19, 2005**.

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presentations, festivals and tours of its materials recovery facility.

In addition, the county held a Business Waste Workshop, redesigned its recycling information booklet, promoted buying recycled with display materials, developed a partnership with the Keep Oconee Beautiful Association and distributed a quarterly newsletter to employees.



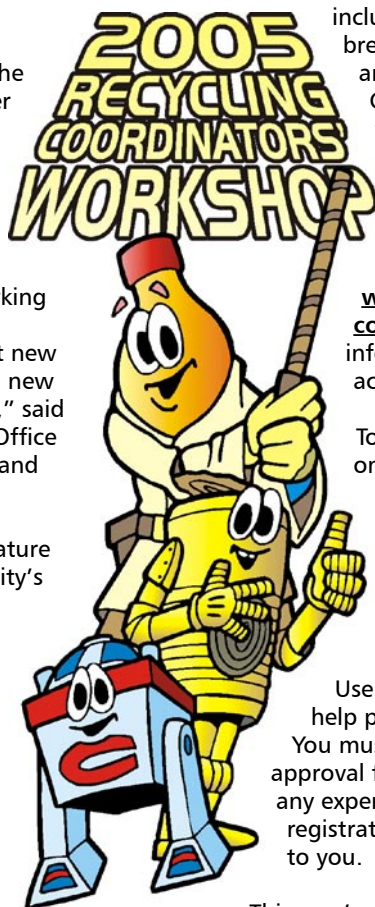
# RC Workshop set for Oct. 26-28

The 2005 Recycling Coordinators Workshop is set for October 26-28 at the Madren Conference Center at Clemson University.

"This important workshop will provide recycling coordinators and other solid waste professionals with networking opportunities and the opportunity to hear about new programs, new issues and new solutions to old problems," said Diane Marlow of DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office).

The workshop also will feature a tour of Clemson University's recycling facilities and the Asphalt and Rubber Technology Service. "Recycling coordinators also will learn the latest on grant funding, reporting and outreach initiatives," Marlow said.

Lodging is available at the James F. Martin Inn on the campus of Clemson University. A special room rate of \$89-\$109 plus tax



includes a deluxe continental breakfast. Mention you are with the Recycling Coordinators' Workshop to receive the special rate.

This rate is available until September 9, 2005. To make hotel reservations, call 1-888-654-9020. Visit [www.jamesfmartininn.com](http://www.jamesfmartininn.com) for additional information about accommodations.

To register, complete the on-line form and e-mail it to [varnat@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:varnat@dhec.sc.gov). To receive a printed form, call 1-800-768-7348. The deadline to register is September 9, 2005.

Use current grant funding to help pay your travel expenses. You must submit a travel pre-approval form prior to making any expenditures. The workshop registration is provided at no cost to you.

This year's workshop is sponsored by Clemson University, Pickens County, Oconee County and the Office.

## Program Updates

### CITY OF COLUMBIA

Keep the Midlands Beautiful along with the City of Columbia Solid Waste Division recently completed a pilot recycling program to collect beverage containers at the Vista After Five Concert Series. The program was successful and plans are being discussed to make the program permanent next year.

### CITY OF ROCK HILL

The City of Rock Hill now has a permanent electronic recycling program. Rock Hill residents may bring all of their electronic waste including anything with a cord (with exception of large appliances) to the Rock Hill Operations Center. This program replaces annual single-day collection events.

Rock Hill Clean & Green was one of five nationwide affiliates to receive the Anheuser Busch/Keep America Beautiful Recycling Grant. Rock Hill will use their money to expand their curbside recycling program as well as educate and encourage citizens to recycle. Part of the grant includes the Rock Hill Recycling Challenge beginning in August. Neighborhoods will be encouraged to take part in a contest to increase their recycling. The participating neighborhood that has the highest increase in its curbside recycling will win an all expense paid block party.

Finally, the City of Rock Hill in cooperation with the S.C. Department of Transportation began a pilot project to decrease cigarette litter at intersections in Rock Hill. The project involves photographing the intersections before and after stenciling the message "No Littering" and the international symbol for "no smoking" at the locations. If there is a decrease in littering, the program may be expanded throughout Rock Hill and possibly to other communities in South Carolina.

### FLORENCE COUNTY

Florence County recently expanded its used oil recycling program. The county added a tank to collect used

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## Calendar

### August 2005

August 28-31 – National Recycling Coalition's 24th Annual Congress and Exposition  
Minneapolis, MN

### September 2005

September 22 – Recycling Business Forum  
Michelin Conference Center, Greenville

### October 2005

October 12 – S.C. Resource Conservation Challenge Workshop  
State Museum, Columbia, SC

October 24-25 – WiseWise Annual Conference  
Washington, DC

October 26-28 – Recycling Coordinators' Workshop  
Madren Conference Center, Clemson University

### November 2005

November 13-16 – BioCycle in the Carolinas Southeast Conference 2005  
Charlotte, NC

For more upcoming events, including "Action for a cleaner tomorrow" workshops as well as "Action in the Classroom" and Green Driver Project presentations, please visit [www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/calendar.html](http://www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/calendar.html).

## Staff Changes

Veronda Lewis, former recycling coordinator with Oconee County, is now a full-time grants coordinator for the county. All recycling correspondence should be forwarded to Melissa Grant Higgs, solid waste director.

Karen Page is the new solid waste coordinator for Spartanburg County Landfill. Her e-mail address is [kpage@spartanburgcounty.org](mailto:kpage@spartanburgcounty.org).

Rudy Smith with Jasper County recently retired.

**EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE:** Berkeley County has two oil filter crushers that are available to a facility. Please contact, Jackie Tillman at (843) 572-4400, ext. 2383 or [jtillman@bcwsa.com](mailto:jtillman@bcwsa.com).

## 'Action' set to debut in S.C. classrooms

A new environmental education program designed to enhance the environmental impact of recycling will debut this fall in elementary schools across South Carolina.

"Action in the Classroom" will target fifth-grade students and provide an overview of reusing, reducing and recycling. The program was developed from "Action for a cleaner tomorrow: A South Carolina Environmental Curriculum Supplement" ("Action") and will include hands on materials, videos and lessons.

"We have trained nearly 30,000 teachers on 'Action' since 1993," said Holly Storey,

education and outreach project manager for DHEC's Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling. "'Action in the Classroom' gives us the opportunity to enhance what we already are doing by giving us more ways to get the word out on the environmental and economic impact of recycling."

Storey said "Action in the Classroom" is modeled after another other successful program offered by the Office – "The Green Driver Project" that targets high school driver education students. "We can customize the presentations," Storey said. "Students will see what's going on nationally, statewide and locally."

## America Recycles materials available

America Recycles is growing up. The annual national awareness event to promote the environmental and economic benefits of buying recycled and recycling celebrates its eighth anniversary on America Recycles Day (November 15).

South Carolina again will be part of that celebration. The centerpiece effort will be the challenge card campaign. Anyone who signs the card pledging to buy recycled and recycle are eligible for state and national prizes.

Recycling coordinators, schools, colleges and universities, businesses and others are encouraged to be part

of America Recycles in South Carolina by holding events and being part of the challenge card campaign.

The Office has challenge cards, posters and bookmarks (in English and Spanish), pencils made from recycled newspapers and rulers made from recycled telephone books. Call **1-800-768-7348** for materials. A reporting form will be sent with your materials. Please complete and return the form to the Office so an accurate number of events held, cards collected and other information can be compiled. The reporting form also is available at [www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/ard.html](http://www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/ard.html).

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oil from farmers at its Effingham Recycling Center located at 6760 Friendfield Road. "We're delighted to offer this service to area farmers," said Kathy Nephew, Florence County's recycling coordinator. The new location was unveiled at the "Big Toys for Big Boys" exhibition at the Eastern Carolina Agricultural Fairgrounds. For more information about recycling in Florence County, contact Nephew at [knephew@florenceco.org](mailto:knephew@florenceco.org) or at (843) 665-3027.

### GEORGETOWN COUNTY

Georgetown County is adding a construction and demolition (C&D) debris Swap Shop. The Swap Shop will be located at the Georgetown County Landfill (902 Landfill Road) and will accept material beginning this fall from C&D projects within the county. All loads must be 75 percent reusable materials in order for tipping fees to be reduced. The materials will be sorted, processed and stored by inmate labor. The Swap Shop will be open to the public on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. Materials may be dropped off during regular landfill hours. Contact Jenny Grier for more information at [jgrier@georgetowncountysc.org](mailto:jgrier@georgetowncountysc.org) or (843) 545-3452.

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DHEC's Office of Solid Waste  
Reduction and Recycling  
2600 Bull Street  
Columbia, SC 29201-1708

